

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete all versions of the sequence listing previously submitted and replace it with the Sequence Listing in electronic format submitted herewith as a text file *via* EFS-Web.

Please replace the abstract with the amended abstract attached hereto as a separate sheet pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.72.

In the specification at page 1, please delete the Title and replace with the following new Title:

Process For The Production Of Fine Chemicals Using A Ras-Like GTPase And Homologues Thereof

In the specification at page 1, please replace the paragraph entitled "SUBMISSION ON COMPACT DISC" which was inserted in the First Preliminary Amendment submitted on January 31, 2003, with the following new paragraph:

SEQUENCE LISTING SUBMISSION

The Sequence Listing associated with this application is filed in electronic format *via* EFS-Web and hereby incorporated by reference into the specification in its entirety. The name of the text file containing the Sequence Listing is Sequence_Listing_12810_00197. The size of the text file is 950 KB, and the text file was created on January 28, 2009.

In the specification at page 1, between the title and the first paragraph (paragraph [0001.0.0.0]), but after the paragraph entitle "SEQUENCE LISTING SUBMISSION" inserted herein, please insert the following section title:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

In the specification at page 7, between the paragraph which starts with "[0023.0.0.0] From a practical" and the paragraph which starts with "[0024.0.0.0] It is therefore," please insert the following section title:

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In the specification at page 8, before the paragraph which starts with "[0025.0.0.0] It was now found," please insert the following section titles and paragraphs:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 shows a protein alignment of Rho small GTPases from *Oryza sativa* cv. Noppon-Brarre (a japonica rice), *Brassica napus* cv. "AC Excel" "Quantum" and "Cresor" (canola), and *Glycine max* cv. Resuick (soybean) (BN41992996 (SEQ ID NO: 38), BN42135991 (SEQ ID NO: 8), BN42385898 (SEQ ID NO: 46), BN42519337 (SEQ ID NO: 32), BN42557868 (SEQ ID NO: 34), BN43381801 (SEQ ID NO: 401), BN44062474 (SEQ ID NO: 30), BN44504217 (SEQ ID NO: 36), BN45412825 (SEQ ID NO: 10), GM47124407 (SEQ ID NO: 12), GM47172047 (SEQ ID NO: 14), GM48914268 (SEQ ID NO: 16), GM49741326 (SEQ ID NO: 24), GM50199916 (SEQ ID NO: 22), GM50693528 (SEQ ID NO: 18), GM52260563 (SEQ ID NO: 20), OS30848846 (SEQ ID NO: 42), OS32558796 (SEQ ID NO: 4), OS33960403 (SEQ ID NO: 6), OS35505384 (SEQ ID NO: 44), OS37807380 (SEQ ID NO: 40), and YNL090W (SEQ ID NO: 2)). Boxes (dotted line) represent the conserved sequences.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

In the specification at page 64, line 11, please replace the paragraph which starts with "[0123.0.0.0] Those, which must" with the following amended paragraph:

[0123.0.0.0] Those, which must be mentioned, in particular in this context are general gene databases such as the EMBL database (Stoesser G. et al., Nucleic Acids Res 2001, Vol. 29, 17-21), the GenBank database (Benson D.A. et al., Nucleic Acids Res 2000, Vol. 28,15-18), or the PIR database (Barker W. C. et al., Nucleic Acids Res. 1999, Vol. 27, 39-43). It is furthermore possible to use organism-specific gene databases for determining advantageous sequences, in the case of yeast for example advantageously the SGD database (Cherry J. M. et al., Nucleic Acids Res. 1998, Vol. 26, 73-80) or the MIPS database (Mewes H.W. et al., Nucleic Acids Res. 1999, Vol. 27, 44-48), in the case of E. coli the GenProtEC database (<http://web.bham.ac.uk/bem4ght6/res.html>), and in the case of Arabidopsis the TAIR-database (Huala, E. et al., Nucleic Acids Res. 2001 Vol. 29(1), 102-5) or the MIPS database.

In the specification at page 173, line 28, please replace the paragraph which starts with "[0441.0.0.0] These and other embodiments" with the following amended paragraph:

[0441.0.0.0] These and other embodiments are disclosed and encompassed by the description and examples of the present invention. Further literature concerning any one of the

methods, uses and compounds to be employed in accordance with the present invention may be retrieved from public libraries, using for example electronic devices. For example the public database "Medline" may be utilized which is available on the Internet, ~~for example under~~ <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed/medline.html>. Further databases and addresses, ~~such as~~ <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/>, ~~http://www.infobiogen.fr/~~, <http://www.fmi.ch/biology/research-tools.html>, ~~http://www.tigr.org/~~, are known to the person skilled in the art ~~and can also be~~ obtained using, e.g., <http://www.lycos.com>. An overview of patent information in biotechnology and a survey of relevant sources of patent information useful for retrospective searching and for current awareness are given in Berks, TIBTECH 12 (1994), 352-364.